

US Army Corps of Engineers

Walla Walla District Public Affairs Office

News Release

News Release 06-52

Date: June 29, 2006

Contact: Karlis Kanbergs

Phone: (503) 808-3941

Water flow increases from Dworshak Reservoir

WALLA WALLA, Wash. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has increased water releases from Dworshak Reservoir from about 2200 to about 7300 cubic feet per second. Additionally, cooler water is being released from the reservoir.

The goal of the increased flow and reduced water temperature is to maintain temperatures in the lower Snake River at state water quality temperature standards. The Corps strives to maintain a full pool in Dworshak Reservoir for recreational purposes over the Fourth of July weekend, but that situation may not be possible this year because continuing elevated temperatures have caused earlier than normal warming of Snake River water. That condition has now made it necessary to increase water release volume at Dworshak Dam while simultaneously decreasing the temperature of released water.

The flow increases will most likely result in the Dworshak Reservoir elevation dropping three to six feet over the Fourth of July holiday.

Additional flow increases may be necessary in the future to further control Snake River water temperatures. Boaters should be aware that reservoir levels are expected to drop over the Fourth of July holiday weekend, and the changes in water elevations may cause stranded boats. Fishermen, swimmers, and other recreational users below the dam should also be aware of increased water flows and extremely cold water temperatures.

Website: www.nww.usace.army.mil E-mail: cenww-pa@usace.army.mil